

ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATE SCHOOLS
IN CATHOLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, December 2, 1992

Westin Hotel, Galleria Dallas

Dallas, Texas

- I. Sister Anne Clark, President of the Association, called the meeting to order in the Governor's Suite at 7:15 a.m. (A buffet-breakfast was available in the Suite, beginning at 7 a.m.) Sister Clark welcomed everyone present, and led self-introductions of representatives of member-institutions. Participants and their institutional affiliations were

Eren Branch	University of San Diego
Sr. Anne Clark	College of Saint Rose
Marsha Daley	John Carroll University
Richard Farmer	Sacred Heart University
Nathan Hatch	University of Notre Dame
Michael Lawler	Creighton University
Edward Jennerich	Seattle University
Rev. John Lynch	Catholic University of America
Katy Marre	University of Dayton
Robert Nikolai	Saint Louis University
Elizabeth O'Connell	University of San Diego
Diane Wilson	University of Notre Dame
Sally Wertheim	John Carroll University

Sister Clark apologized for the absence of a principal presentation at this meeting, but noted that the speaker who had been engaged, the Very Reverend Thomas Peterson, O.P., Chancellor of Seton Hall University, notified her only several weeks ago that he would be unable to honor his earlier commitment to attend.

(A draft of the Minutes of the December 4, 1991, meeting of the Association was critiqued by the participants by mail; the final version was included in the agenda-mailing for this meeting.)

- II. Robert Nikolai, Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, distributed prepared copies of his membership-report. He indicated that, to date, dues for the 1992-93 academic year (FY1993) had been received from 24 Full and one Associate member-institutions. He recalled that 1992-93 was the second year that dues have been collected, a section on dues having been added to the Constitution when it was last amended in December 1990. He noted that several institutions that have been "carried" as members for some substantial time had not responded to dues-invoices nor in any way participated in the Association during the past two years, and suggested that they be dropped from the Association

mailing list. No objection to this action was voiced. Sister Clark proposed that the President write a "last letter" of invitation to each of these institutions.

Robert Nikolai distributed copies of the Treasurer's reports for FY1992 (complete; prepared in June 1992) and FY1993 (incomplete); the Association's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. For FY1992, income from dues (23 Full and one Associate members), assessments for the Candidates' Booklet, and reservations for the dinner preceeding the 1991 annual meeting totalled \$2765.00. Expenses associated with the Candidates' Booklet, the cited dinner, and a plaque for Sister Alice Gallin came to \$2063.24. The balance of income over expenses, \$701.76, was placed in a checking account in June 1992 with United Postal Savings in St. Louis, Missouri. (Prior to FY1992, with no dues collected, no funds had been carried over from one fiscal year to the next.) During FY 1992 (through November 1992), the Association has received dues-payments of \$985.00, and has spent \$9.95 for checks and maintenance of its checking account and \$198.50 for mailing labels associated with the Booklet project. Several small bills remain outstanding, having been paid initially by the Office of The Graduate School, Saint Louis University.

- III. Robert Nikolai distributed copies of his report on the Candidates' Booklet project for 1991; he also passed around several copies of past Booklet editions. He noted at the outset that the time-table for publication and distribution of the Booklets had been moved up in response to comments from potential and actual users; biographic sketches were solicited in early September and the Booklet was published in late November. Seven universities participated, although two perennial participants were notably "absent," and 134 usable sketches were received (compared to more than 200 the previous year). He further reported that, as in recent years, the distribution list included 222 Catholic colleges and universities nationwide and 700 secondary schools, NCEA members, in the regions of the U.S. of the participating Association members. (In excess of 1400 Catholic high schools nationwide belong to the NCEA; only a small minority of the Booklets were distributed to high schools west of the Mississippi River.) Robert indicated that, in response to the directive at the annual meeting last December, the Booklet time-table for 1992 was readjusted, sketches were obtained in October, eight member-institutions have submitted 221 usable sketches (the largest number in the history of the project), materials are now with the printer, and booklets will be distributed to colleges and universities next week and to secondary schools in January. Richard Farmer, noting that all participating institutions were doctoral-granting, inquired if Master's only Association members could participate. Robert replied affirmatively, indicating that letters inviting participation are mailed each year to all AGSCCU member-institutions. Eren Branch inquired about distribution of Booklets to high schools. Robert said

that mailing-labels for all secondary-school members of NCEA must be obtained in a "package" from the NCEA, but to keep the cost of the project reasonable, and because to date less than 40% of the students submitting sketches have indicated interest in high-school teaching, no booklets have been mailed to secondary schools distant to the participating AGSCCU institutions; he added that no Association member besides Saint Louis University west of the Mississippi River has ever participated in the project. Elizabeth O'Connell, noting the preliminary pages in the Booklet, inquired about feedback and responses via the included survey-form. Robert replied that feedback and responses have been minimal in recent years. Elizabeth thought that, perhaps, the Association might write directly to the Catholic colleges and universities to inquire if the Booklet is of any significant use to them in their recruiting activities.

IV. Sister Clark invited the participants to make suggestions toward increasing Association membership. Elizabeth O'Connell commented that dynamic speakers talking on timely topics and issues would help. Sister noted that a number of Catholic deans, not present this morning, are registered for the CGS meeting; they should be contacted. Robert Nikolai said that 100 or more Catholic comprehensive institutions belong to ACCU; should the Association write to them? Nathan Hatch, Eren Branch, and Michael Lawler commented about the numerous organizations that a Catholic graduate dean could join; what in particular does or can the AGSCCU do for that dean? Katy Marre made note of the potential to expand the "network" of Catholic graduate deans. Elizabeth O'Connell noted that the AGSCCU is the only Catholic organization emphasizing/focusing on graduate education. Eren Branch thought that the Association might increase its "attachment to"/visibility within CGS. Fr. Lynch suggested panels at AGSCCU meetings on "nuts and bolts issues" of particular interest to Catholic graduate deans. A straw vote conducted by Sister Clark indicated a preference to return to the evening format (with dinner before or after) for future Association meetings.

V. Sister Clark asked for the report of the chair of the Nominating Committee. Katy Marre said that the terms of Sister Clark and Michael Lawler on the Executive Committee expire with this meeting. She reported that Eren Branch has accepted the nomination for the office of President for the next two years and Rev. Lynch had agreed to be nominated for a three-year membership on the Executive Committee. Sister Clark asked for nominations from the floor. None was heard. Sister Clark then declared Eren Branch and Rev. John Lynch elected by acclamation.

VI. New Business

Sister Clark requested informal reports on new directions/initiatives on the participants' campuses. Robert Nikolai described a

Teaching Resources Room, established within the new quarters of The Graduate School at Saint Louis University; he commented on available audiovisual/computer equipment and a library of pertinent texts, articles, etc., in preparation. Elizabeth O'Connell reported that the University of San Diego has received a grant to study diversity on its campus. Nathan Hatch spoke about a cooperative program between the University of Notre Dame and Xavier University, New Orleans, with the objectives of interchanges and the attraction of Xavier grads to UND for advanced degree study. Robert Nikolai remarked that the Midwest Catholic Graduate Schools consortium (Loyola-Chicago, Marquette, Notre Dame, and Saint Louis Universities) remains active. Katy Marre said that the University of Dayton is cooperating with Wilberforce University in three new multidisciplinary Physics/Engineering programs. Several participants commented on administrative and academic structures and control of budgets and stipends involving the graduate school and dean. Nathan Hatch described the centralized graduate-program administration at the University of Notre Dame. Edward Jennerich reported that advanced study at Seattle University was in professional disciplines and that they have no teaching assistants; he said that decentralization is under discussion, but no quick decisions in that regard are anticipated. Richard Farmer said that he is the "founding" graduate dean at Sacred Heart University; he argued the importance of a centralized structure. Sally Wertheim indicated that the graduate-program structure at John Carroll University is centralized; she has the M.B.A. degree program under her jurisdiction, promotes interdisciplinary activity, is the "equal" of the collegiate deans, and conducts graduate program reviews. Sister Clark remarked that she is an advocate for the collegiate deans at the College of Saint Rose. Michael Lawler indicated that he must conduct outcomes-assessment at Creighton University, and is seeking suggestions on procedures. Katy Marre said that outcomes-assessment is a necessary component of program review; the primary reference for the assessment is the institution's mission-statement. Nathan Hatch reported that at Notre Dame four administrators prepare a two-page long-range plan in concluding each program-review. Richard Farmer said that the Northeastern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that institutions determine if students are meeting program-objectives; such an assessment is difficult to undertake. Sister Clark indicated that she has co-ordinated program-reviews at the College of Saint Rose over the past three years; the reviews were initiated at the requests of the programs themselves. Elizabeth O'Connell reported that, in its reviews of programs, Loyola University-Chicago surveys alumni that graduated ten years ago.

The presidency of the Association was passed from Sister Anne Clark to Eren Branch.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m. by Eren Branch with the mutual consent of the participants.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Nikolai
Secretary-Treasurer